

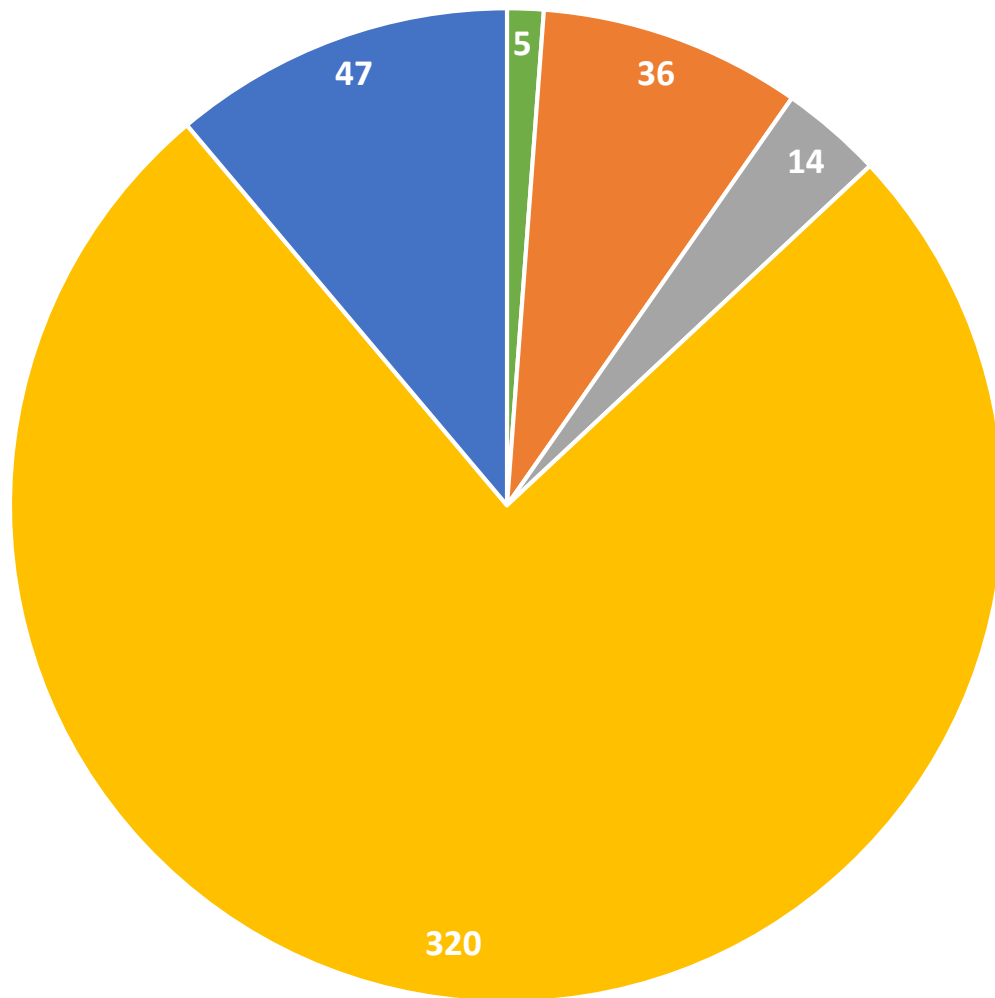
MISSOURI MINES STATE HISTORIC SITE CDP SURVEY #1 RESPONSES

May 2025 – June 2025

Number of Responses: 422

QUESTION #1

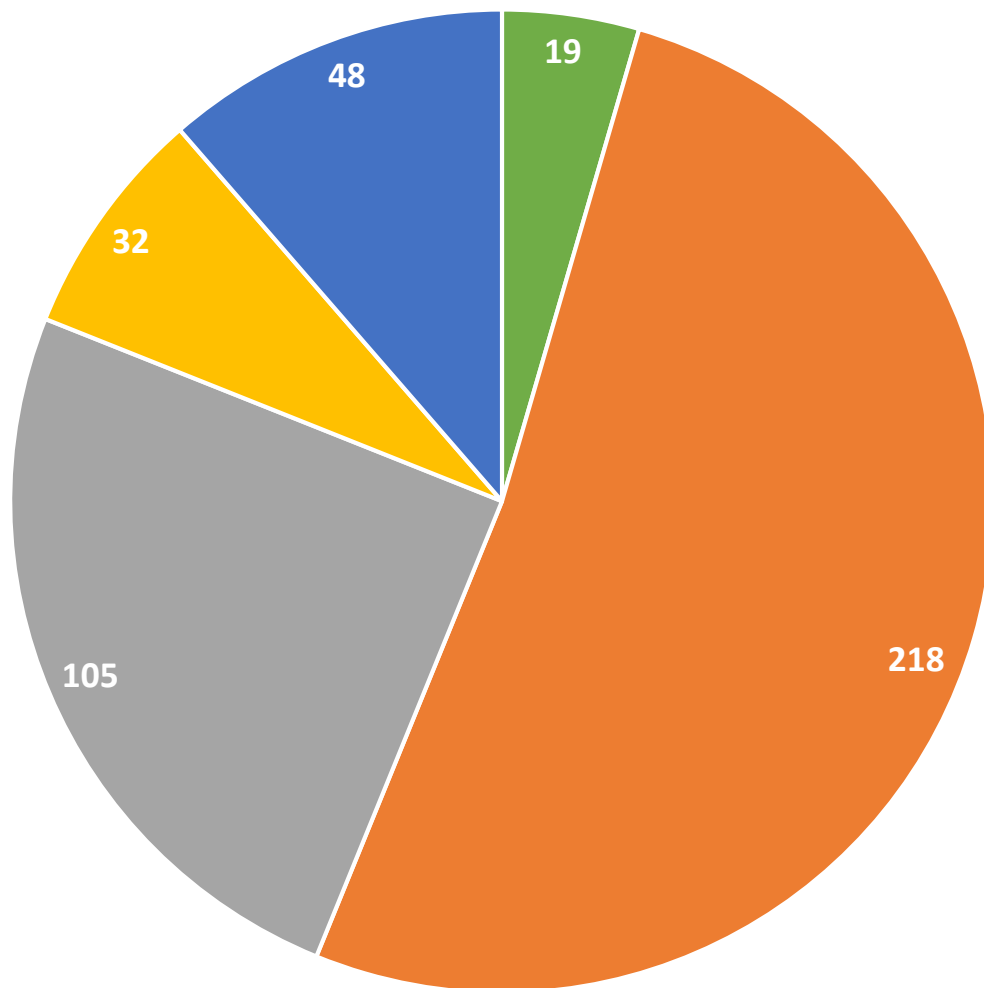
HOW OFTEN DO YOU VISIT THIS HISTORIC SITE?



■ Daily ■ Monthly ■ Weekly ■ Occasionally ■ Never

QUESTION #2

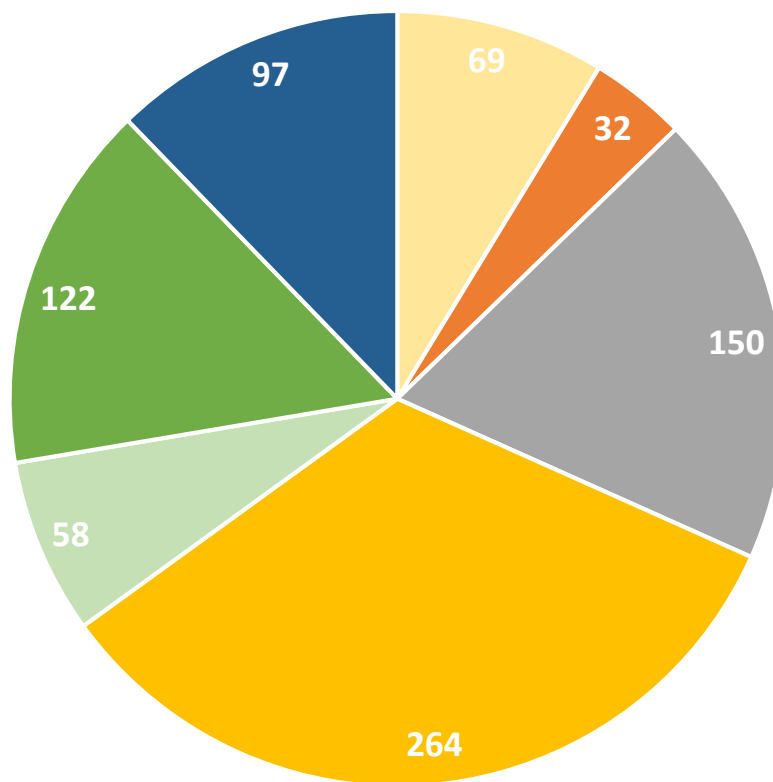
WHEN YOU VISIT THIS HISTORIC SITE,
WHO USUALLY JOINS YOU?



■ Club or Organized Group ■ Family ■ Family and Friends ■ Friends ■ Self

QUESTION #3

WHICH RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES ARE
YOU ENGAGING IN DURING YOUR
VISIT(S)?



- Biking
- Birding
- Hiking
- Historic Site Tour
- Interpretive Programs
- Photography
- Walking/Running

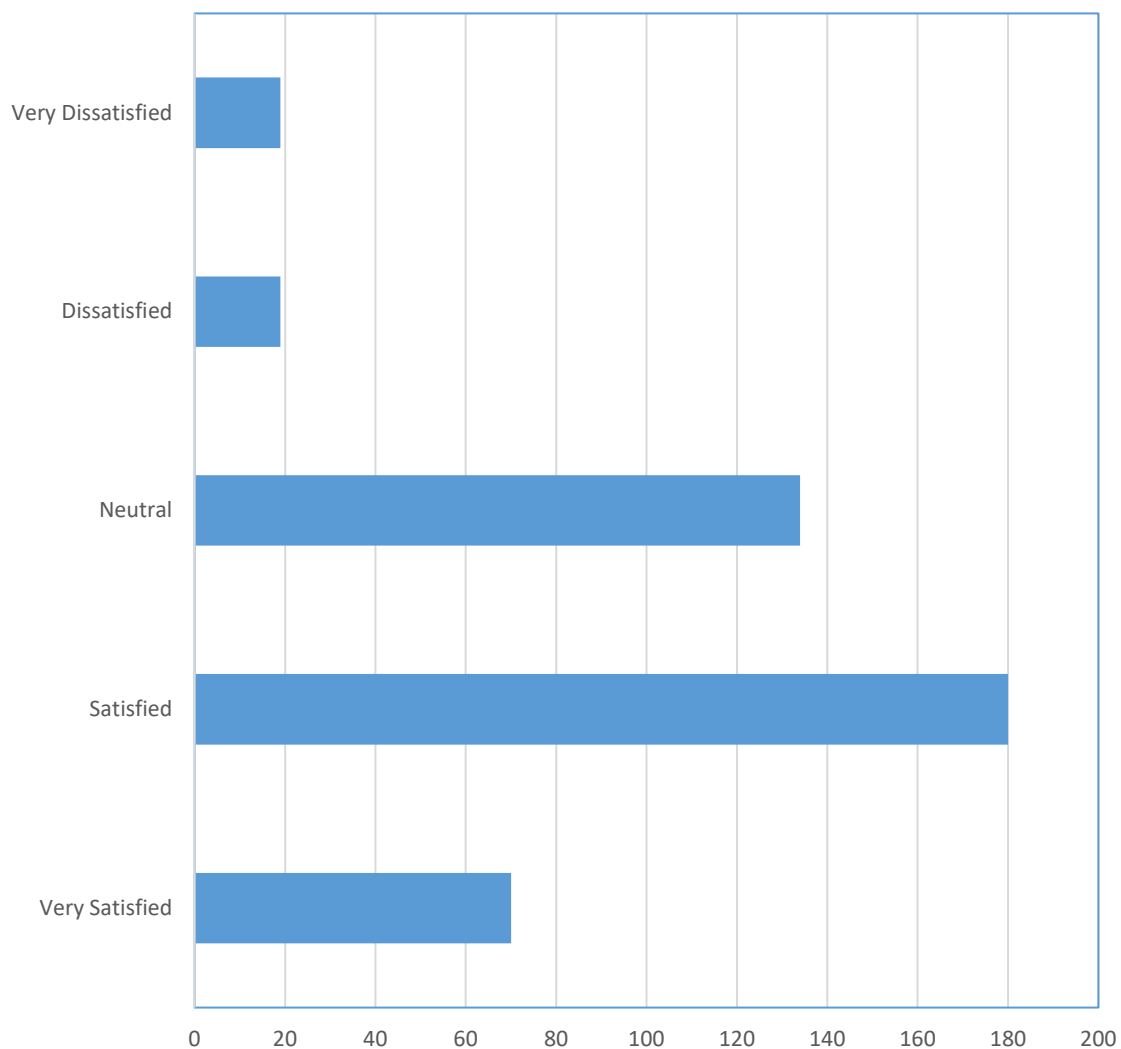
OTHER ACTIVITIES:

1. Events
2. geology
3. Hare scramble race
4. Herbs n mushrooms ♠ n other forager n foraging activities
5. Historic tour
6. I also have been to the rock swap
7. I enjoy the rock swap very much.
8. Id love to roller blade but the trails are not maintained enough.
9. Learning about the history of the area.
10. Looking at the historic site.
11. Mining related programs, the site is about mining. I'll go to another park for different activities.
12. Museum
13. Museum
14. Museum and rock events
15. Museum Going
16. Museum tour
17. Pictures
18. RC!
19. Research
20. Research
21. rock appreciation
22. Rock hounding
23. Rock seap
24. rock show
25. Rock shows
26. Rock Swap
27. Rock Swap
28. Rock swap
29. Rock swap
30. Rock swap
31. Rock swap
32. Rock swap
33. Rock swap
34. rock swap
35. Rock swap how it used to be
36. Rockhounding
37. Seeing the antique equipment
38. Shooting range
39. Special events
40. The lead keeps us from enjoying the grounds

41. The Museum...there is nothing else at this site except for occasional special tours of old mine buildings.
42. UTV
43. Visiting museum
44. Visiting the museum. Am a geologist. Coming for the rock swap.
45. Walking around/exploring

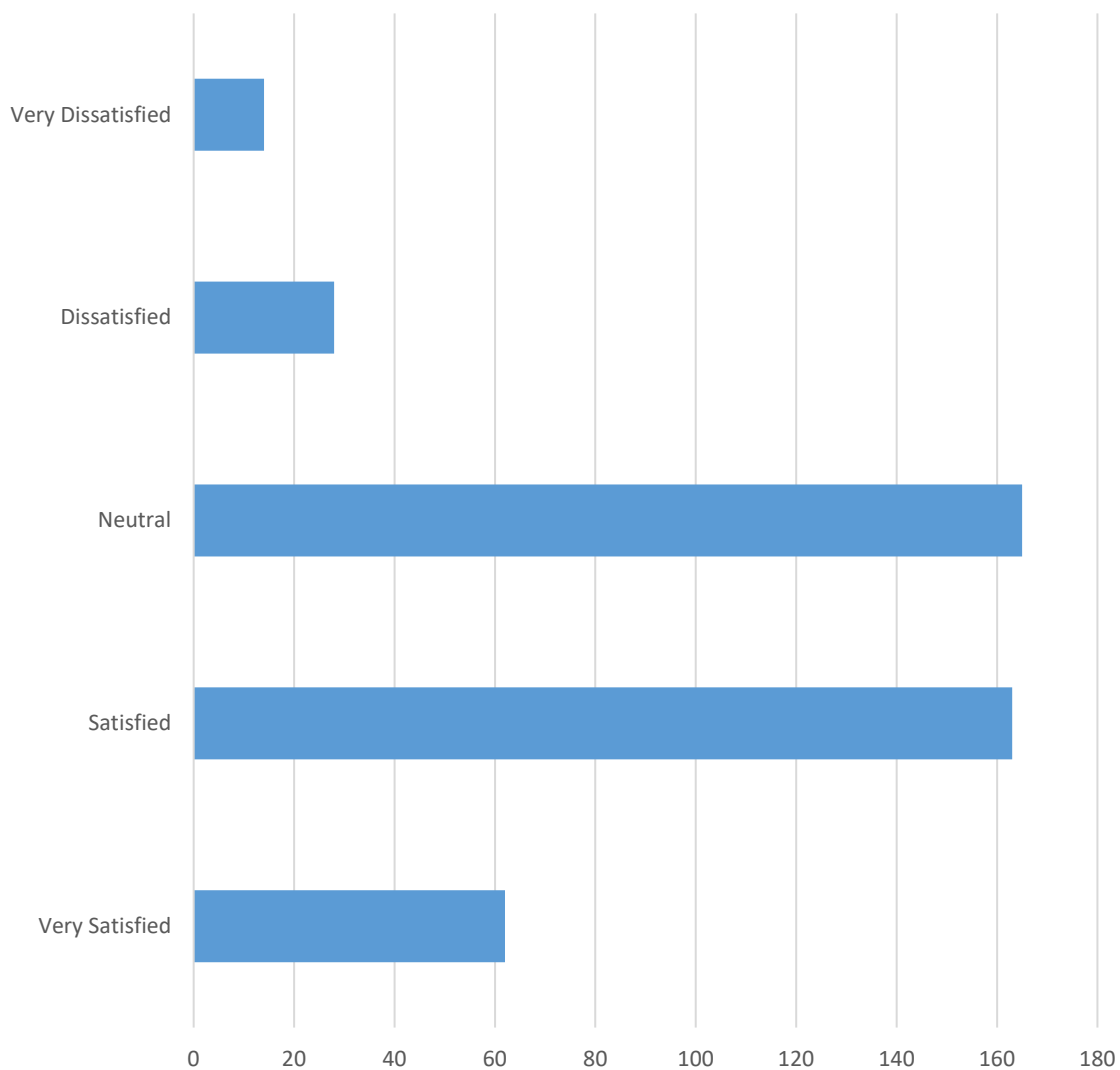
QUESTION #4

HOW SATISFIED ARE YOU WITH THE
RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES THIS HISTORIC
SITE OFFERS?



QUESTION #6

HOW SATISFIED ARE YOU WITH THE
INFRASTRUCTURE AND AMENITIES THIS
HISTORIC SITE OFFERS?



OPEN-ENDED QUESTIONS

QUESTION #5:

WHAT RECREATIONAL ACTIVITY, IF ANY,
DO YOU FEEL IS MISSING AND SHOULD BE
ADDED TO THIS HISTORIC SITE TO
ENHANCE THE VISITOR EXPERIENCE?



1. ****Guided Geology & Rock Hunting Tours**** – Expand on the rock collection events by creating designated areas for visitors to learn how to identify and collect minerals safely, with expert-led tours explaining the geology of the site. ****Mine-Themed Adventure Playground**** – A play area designed with mining-inspired structures, like tunnels, rock-climbing walls, and pulley systems that mimic the old mining operations, making it fun for younger visitors while educating them about the site's history. ****Heritage Trail & Interactive Exhibits**** – A walking trail with historical markers, immersive audio stations, or augmented reality experiences that transport visitors back in time to see how the mine operated. ****Dark Sky Viewing & Nighttime Tours**** – Since old mines often have limited light pollution, incorporating stargazing events or lantern-lit historical tours could create a unique nighttime experience. ****Hands-on Historic Workshops**** – Workshops that allow visitors to try traditional mining techniques, refine minerals, or even craft jewelry from rocks collected on-site, providing both education and engagement.
2. A better tour curriculum. Tours need to include more information.
3. A grounds tour
4. A more detailed tour of the mine buildings, there is a great amount of history that is inaccessible to the public.
5. A more thorough explanation and experience of the history of the area. Also fishing is always a plus.
6. A trip into the mine would be awesome. Have demonstrations of machinery
7. Ability to tour the old plant. To see how the old mill operated
8. Additional interpretation of the mining activities and opening of the areas of the other St. Joe Lead works like the concentrate processing area.
9. Advertising . . . no one knows about it!
10. All
11. All good
12. Allow ORV like jeep / rock crawlers to be on trails not just flats. Even if it was designated days, I think it would bring a big crowd.
13. An area undergoing in the mine needs to be opened for tours.
14. Better historic tours. Interactive exhibits.
15. Better museum with all the history of this area.
16. Better primitive campsites. Better trails. Better historic and interpretive signage.
17. Better swimming conditions.
18. Better tours of the mines.
19. Better upkeep of site.
20. Cabins.
21. Camping.
22. Camping.
23. Camping.
24. Camping.
25. Climbing gym.
26. Disc golf.
27. Don't know.
28. Enjoy the park. Perhaps access/parking to some of the natural areas.
29. Everything.
30. Exhibits on how mine restoration is and should be accomplished, i.e. conservation & productive reuse of tailings impoundments, chat piles, underground mines, etc.
31. Expanded area of the tour.
32. Fishing.

33. Geology research and discovery. Walking tours.
34. Grounds tour.
35. Hands on activities, live demonstrations, workshops for teens.
36. He ranger program similar to the national parks.
37. Hiking, more of the buildings open for informational tours.
38. I am afraid this site is going to be condemned and closed.
39. I am not sure this site and St Joe State Park is safe from lead contamination.
40. I didn't know this site existed, alas!
41. I think it is great as is but would like to see more of the current status of the outside (via photography would be fine!)
42. I think it would be a great addition to get to actually tour the mine.
43. I think open knowledge of the site would be great. I don't visit because I never knew it was open to the public nor what there was to do there.
44. I think there is only tours offered.
45. I wish the site would give you even a glimpse of the underground.
46. I wish we could visit inside the mill, more places to walk around would be nice.
47. I would like to explore many of the buildings on site. My grandfather ran the main hoist and would be nice to see the area he worked in.
48. I would like to have a more in depth tour
49. I would like to walk around the old mine buildings more
50. I would love more building exploration of going into the ones that are closed off. I'd also love to have more of a through outside tour of the location.
51. I would love to be able to tour more of the buildings.
52. I would love to see more of the old buildings.
53. I'd love to see more of the site!
54. I'm not sure what all can be done in that area.
55. Improve and expand the equestrian trails at St. Joe Park
56. Improve the facilities and develop more interactive programs
57. I've honestly only visited this site once and enjoyed the tour and taking pictures. I look forward to visiting again and going hiking exploring more.
58. LARP.
59. Making it possible to tour inside of all the buildings.
60. Map of mining sites in Missouri. Provide info as to the rationale/timeline as to why Missouri was such a huge mining area. Explain process of how ore is changed to usable products. Provide current status of environmental impacts/projects at remediation areas. Also more restoration projects should be planned/discussed. Will the site be returned to native areas?
61. Maybe more benches/picnic tables along the trail
62. Mine car ride.
63. More access to buildings and I mine.
64. More access to the actual mines n Deeper etc...
65. More access to the buildings and grounds.
66. More frequent managed deer hunts.
67. More historical events.
68. More history on area geography and mining etc. Museum, tours, interpretive center or trail, and definitely demonstrations.
69. More hours.

70. More in depth tours.
71. More in depth tours of all the buildings on site.
72. More information about the mines and miners themselves. More of the facility open for tours.
73. More information!
74. More interactive content for kids. Where they can pretend to mine, or historical clothing for dress up, interactive outdoor play areas, etc.
75. More needs to be said about the dangers of mining to the miners and to the environment.
76. More of the buildings should be open.
77. More ORV trails.
78. More ORV access.
79. More rock shows.
80. More rock swap events
81. More walking trails around the building complex.
82. Motorized scooter accessible trails.
83. Needs more access to water, latrines and covered pavilions.
84. None get rid of it.
85. None I can think of.
86. None missing as far as I'm concerned.
87. Not being able to actually tour the grounds, even on designated paths or Wall Street through the plant and property are needed.
88. Nothing is missing but please keep RC cars on the list of activities allowed!
89. Occasional bench on the walking/bike path.
90. Open more of the structures for viewing, or at least allow access to a greater area- not just one main section with gates blocking access to the rest.
91. Overflow and generator/primitive camping for the park
92. Paved walk trail around those old rusty buildings.
93. Perhaps a small fee activity for self "mining" for minerals, etc. The Site can offer to rent basic mining equipment like picks, shovels, etc. and have a reference chart of what minerals are available to be found in addition to the lead. (Diamond State Park in Arkansas has a similar program for reference).
94. Possibly a mining experience, like purchasing a pay dirt and having a water station to pan gems and minerals. You could use the mine tailings for the dirt and Missouri rocks/minerals for the pay.
95. Possibly a playground.
96. Regular tours, active exhibits in the mine buildings, operating machines or demonstrations.
97. Remote control air flying area. Paintball. Mountain bike skills course.
98. Restock the lakes.
99. Rock wall.
100. Roller blading.
101. Saving the historical aspect of mining in the area is our main interest of the park.
102. See above interests. also need consistent hours for tours.
103. Select days for photographers to explore and document more areas of the facility.
104. Sites for RVs.
105. Some sort of rock collecting or mineral collecting aspect.
106. Something for children to play on that was themed after the mine and equipment?
107. The ability to much of anything.
108. The ATV-ers in the campground do not obey quiet hours. Drunk loud all night and played their RV TV too loud.

109. The historical displays should be further enhanced and hazardous conditions addressed
110. The mineral and rock hound side is lacking.
111. The whole point of the site is to provide education about Mo. Rocks, Minerals and mining. Please maintain and develop the big builds to interpret 400 years of lead mining.
112. There are a lot of options already.
113. There should be a mine site tour that allows you to see inside some of the buildings more and inside part of the mine, if those areas are still safe.
114. To be able to take tours through the minds buildings.
115. To be honest I didn't know what the other activities were that are apparently available if that list above is to be believed; I was there for the rocks.
116. Tour.
117. Tour of mine buildings and underground tour like Soudan Mine SP in Minnesota - https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/state_parks/park.html?id=spk00285#homepage
118. Tour of the mine itself. Playground/picnic area.
119. Tour of the underground operations.
120. Tour original buildings or mine.
121. Tour/exploration of the various buildings. Why are they there? What was going on inside of them?
122. Touring actual mine.
123. Tours or some kind of video or photography within the major factory itself.
124. Underground mine tour.
125. Underground tours.
126. Updated and nicer facilities.
127. UTV riding.
128. Walking and Biking trails.
129. Walking or hiking trails.
130. We were disappointed that we only got to visit inside one building and look into one other building. We expected more to walk thru and see.
131. Would like to be able to explore more of the site.

QUESTION #7:

WHAT INFRASTRUCTURE OR AMENITY, IF ANY, DO YOU FEEL IS MISSING AND SHOULD BE ADDED TO THIS HISTORIC SITE TO ENHANCE THE VISITOR EXPERIENCE?



1. A little more shade by the parking lot would be great. The first time we brought our twins, they were probably just over a year old, and having a shady spot to have snack would have been helpful.
2. A live working historical mining village would be cool where people are dressed in past and playing roles and doing demonstrations.
3. A nice shed or area to sit in the shade.
4. A picnic area with a view of the mine would be nice.
5. A small store or snack bar to pick up drinks, snacks, ice cream, etc.
6. A tour of the outside with possible golf cart.
7. A tourist train on the tracks nearby.
8. Ability to tour other former operations of the mine.
9. Access to more of the buildings and areas.
10. Actual mine tour.
11. All good.
12. Anything other than just the tour. A picnic area, playground, walking trail. It's such a neat structure and it should be preserved but unless you're going on another tour, why visit?
13. As I am sure, you are well aware, the interpretive materials are dated and tired looking. At least when I was there about two or so years ago. It looks like a museum from the 1960s or early 70s at the latest.
14. Bathroom facility even if separate from main building.
15. Bathrooms.
16. Benches occasionally on the bike/walk path.
17. Better bathrooms.
18. Better cafe/gift shop.
19. Better display of the mining and the people that worked there.
20. Better interpretive signage.
21. Better paved roads.
22. Better picnicking area. Nicer walking paths thru the various buildings.
23. Better signage and visitor information.
24. Better upkeep.
25. Better visitor center, Cap the holding tank and make it into a skate park, RC car track.
26. Building access. Hands on exhibits.
27. Cabins, Houses.
28. Campground.
29. Campground with showers 4x4 only camp area.
30. Closer camping.
31. Completely missing so much to show the mining history of the area. Huge complex and just one little building has stuff in it.
32. Concession stand
33. Disc golf course
34. Dog water stations
35. Explain the history and continuing effects of lead that was mined here. It resulted in (so far) two centuries of various degrees of lead poisoning that has become a public health nightmare. Mining companies got rich and have been held on minimally responsible for their actions, even though they knew better.
36. Flushable bathrooms that do not smell.
37. Food service.
38. Food trucks and an old time soda fountain/ ice cream shop would be cool.
39. Food trucks and covered picnic areas.

40. For me it's lack of care for the old buildings. I know it's expensive to upkeep, but if even the plant could be restored it would make the area look better and probably attract more visitors.
41. Full services campground and biking paths.
42. Full time gift shop the rocks that are for sale are awesome but they have odd hours so they don't see as much as they could.
43. Have food trucks visit?
44. Haven't been there. Not sure if it is wheelchair accessible.
45. Having the rock/mineral store open when the site is open.
46. I don't feel like the public should be exposed to lead.
47. I think a better connection with St. Joe State park would be ideal, maybe some additional signage and availability so visitors could easily visit both.
48. I think the old mine is a super cool site but I worry that it's going to fall apart...I wish it was possible to take more of an in-depth tour of it but I guess considering its state, that is too dangerous.
49. I think there could be more information added about the early French settlers who may have mine this area, and not just the more recent lead mining.
50. I would like to see tours of the site. Not just movies.
51. I would love to see the mine buildings "alive" or "on set" like historic mines around the country. Maybe a numbered walking tour with explanations.
52. Improve and expand the equestrian trails at St. Joe Park.
53. Improve the currently inaccessible areas so they are safe to approach (or enter) to allow more structures to be visited.
54. Interpretation of the various buildings and historic uses.
55. Invite local rock hunting groups, geologists, paleontologists, etc. to give talks, get-togethers, and sales for the public.
56. It needs to be condemned
57. It will be VERY DIFFICULT to ever replace Art Hebrank!!
58. It would be great to have a tour option inside a small piece of the mine itself. I understand that this could be cost-prohibitive and have safety concerns that go along with it, but it would be an amazing experience for people.
59. it would be very nice if more of the old mill buildings were stabilized and enterable
60. It's perfect the way it is.
61. Keep the history! Of the building and of mining in Missouri. Our mining history is getting lost and it was a huge part of our state history.
62. Lake.
63. Larger trails so you don't get run over by trailbikes
64. Make the buildings safer and allow tours to go into more places to learn more about the site
65. Maybe a bathroom and water where the bike trail from St Joe meets up.
66. Maybe more shade or trees. As I recall it is a lot of asphalt.
67. Mine and facility tour.
68. More and cleaner restrooms. Better dining accommodations.
69. More bathrooms.
70. More benches along the paved bicycle/walking trail.
71. More historical interpretation of the history and importance of mining in Missouri.
72. More Historical Tours.
73. More info and pics of it during operation. More descriptions on signs of the buildings and structures outside.

74. More outdoor seating.
75. More picnicking area and play area for children.
76. More rock and mineral programs, demonstrations and outreach historical programs. Make it more like First State Capitol for Missouri geology.
77. More things for kids.
78. More tour areas. More history than presented.
79. More trees!
80. Most of the site is closed off to public access. If feasible, safe access should be incorporated.
81. Must have good bathrooms.
82. My husband works in a mine and we are very interested in looking around and exploring the actual mine sitting.
83. New Exhibits and trails.
84. Open more of the trail. It would be amazing to walk around the entire site.
85. ORV trailhead.
86. Overflow/primitive/generator campsites for ORV park.
87. Picnic area is needed.
88. Picnic shelters and restrooms.
89. Rental cabins.
90. Restrooms.
91. Restrooms.
92. Restrooms and picnic pavilions.
93. RV Campsites with full hook-ups.
94. Scenic overlook tower.
95. Site and historical information and preservation would be my focus.
96. Some picnic shelters and tables would be nice.
97. The ability to collect and join clubs or have more rock swaps.
98. The museum effect was good bit that was all there is...some of the artifacts weren't even local...was hoping to maybe see old pics of surrounding area.
99. The original equipment in the powerhouse should be part of the museum and the mill should be restored.
100. The site has much to offer, but access is dreadfully limited.
101. There is very little information presented on the environmental impacts of lead mining presented and the fact that the dam, Monsanto and Pim lakes are all build to hold back or on top of lead waste.
102. This site offers wonderful photography potential.
103. Tour of the mine Playground.
104. Tours of the mine ruins.
105. Underground access.
106. Updated campgrounds and full hookup and more sites.
107. Walking trails.
108. Water fountains.
109. What's the deal with all of the other buildings?

QUESTION #8:

DO YOU HAVE ADDITIONAL COMMENTS
OR SUGGESTIONS REGARDING THIS
HISTORIC SITE?



1. A deeper dive into Missouri lead mining history would be good. For example, what relationship was there in the Civil War and lead mining? Battles? Material for bullets? Who was in control of what?
2. A small theater: - Educational Films – Short, dynamic documentaries covering local geology, mineral formations, and mining heritage. - Interactive Storytelling – Themed presentations featuring reenactments or narrated histories from past miners. - Virtual Mine Tours – A cinematic experience taking visitors deep into the mine's past with 3D visuals. - Guest Speaker Series – Occasional talks by geologists, historians, or former miners to bring real-world expertise into the space.
3. Add more ranger led tours to areas closed to the public or find ways to open more areas.
4. Adding labels or reading plates to each building that gets talked about in the tour. Some people like to read the info instead of hearing it.
5. All good.
6. Bike trail needs fixed in some spots.
7. Closer camping.
8. Continue to hold the rock exchange swap.
9. Do rock education visits at the schools.
10. Embarrassing to bring anyone there. Looks so huge on the outside, nothing really to it. At least it was free.
11. Far too many signs. Count them. You will be surprised how many along the roads.
12. Figure out a way to stop closing off the bike trail for police shooting range.
13. Good background for photo opportunities.
14. I can only imagine that this is a challenging park to maintain and keep up, so I'm not really pointing fingers at anyone.
15. I don't think I knew all the activities listed above are available here. I've pretty much enjoyed the historic tour, walking around, and noticing plants and birds. Next time I visit I'll pay more attention to the possibilities.
16. I enjoy this site.
17. I grew up in the area. Our home was a St Joe lead company home. I played fir years in the lands that eventually became park land in the late 70's. History and learning is the critical function to maintain here.
18. I have a campsite nearby so have come a couple times walking my dog and to see what is there and also to walk on the trail towards St. Joe State Park.
19. I have never been there but always wanted to! We pass by it on our way to/from Johnson's Shut-Ins and/or Elephant Rocks. My adult grandson and I plan to get there this summer.
20. I love it for the pristine condition it is in, now. I don't feel the need to ruin it with upgrades.
21. I love the historic feel. Thanks for preserving the importance of the history of the lead belt
22. I love this state park.
23. I really like the quality of the museum displays and especially like being able to get close to the mining equipment and mineral samples.
24. I really like the rock museum! I wish the shop was open more regularly.
25. I really like the video, the antique equipment and the mineral collection.
26. I think the site should be evaluated to see how historic parts can be preserved, while making repairs on parts that are falling apart, such as broken windows or rusty metal that is falling apart.
27. I would like to be able to see more of the site.
28. I would like to see the trees and vegetation cut in front of the old mill view from 32 highway.
29. I would love to see some homeschool programs at our state parks. They are such a great resource for hands on learning and the park employees are usually very excited to share their information and skills.

30. I would suggest to NOT expand more ORV trails. It's starting to feel like you're not going to a park. I think having more events at this park may help. Like the rock swap. As a kid that is when I visited and other things like this may bring more people out.
31. I'd love to see a section dedicated to the Lead Belt Mining Riot of 1917. This is history that very few are aware of.
32. Improve and expand the equestrian trails at St. Joe Park.
33. It looks very sad in current condition.
34. It needs more publicity it's an interesting area to visit but hard to find information about.
35. It was underwhelming. The machines and history in the one building were cool, but we thought there would be more to see and do.
36. It would be awesome to see more of the buildings preserved and restored. We took a group of senior citizens there two months ago and had a great experience.
37. It would be neat to be able to tour old mines and learn about the history.
38. It would be nice if there were some connections to modern day mining practices showing how progress has been achieved.
39. It would be really great to be able to tour other buildings (if safe to do so) and have more information or interpretive programs about the history of the mine and of the area and why it was important. Learning about the geology of Missouri is important and interesting but for a historic site, I'd like to see more history of the site.
40. It would be nice if hard hat tours were available inside some of the buildings.
41. It's a big site it has lots of potential but I don't see it being used. It could be used for holiday events ... different festivals with food trucks etc., 4th of July fireworks, summer outdoor movie nights, wilderness training and more.
42. It's a great site. We love visiting.
43. It's historic, I wouldn't change it that would ruin its history.
44. It's very historically important to our region for educational purposes and recreation.
45. I've been in the area, but have not directly visited the site as of yet, but I would like to.
46. Keep the structure and make it safe for tours.
47. Let people explore more of the buildings.
48. Love the site. Wish it had a better building with more lead miner material. I wish it had a better look at the daily life of miners.
49. Love the walking paths.
50. Loved the tour and items shown here!
51. Maintenance of the old structures.
52. Make the buildings safer and allow tours to go into more places to learn more about the site.
53. Make this more open to public.
54. Marked trails.
55. Maybe add some WPA information.
56. Maybe have a list posted throughout the park of known animal life that live and breed in the park, even birds and fish. Just a thought.
57. More exhibits of minerals, rocks, mining tools, maps, etc.
58. More explanation of what you are seeing when you look in the buildings.
59. More maintenance needs to be done on the old mine buildings. They are looking very run down from the road.
60. More needs to be said about the dangers of mining to the miners and to the air, water and soil quality.

61. Native plant areas would be so beneficial and needed, since we are losing SO much land to development and monoculture agriculture.
62. Our family enjoyed touring this site and found it very interesting and unique.
63. Please keep the site open. 🙏
64. Preserve some of the buildings. Make them accessible. Build a historic trail you can self-walk. Preserve the history.
65. Provide information plaques at each part of the tour.
66. Provide more educational tours/curriculum activities to increase fields to site. Maybe create curriculum that is back to back sites nearby (Hawn SP) to increase school field trips and even family trips.
67. Publish information on the safety of the site after all the lead problems.
68. Stabilize the remaining buildings so there can be tours inside.
69. Staff was wonderful.
70. State parks should be ashamed by the condition of this facility and the lack of preservation of the historic structures which are now far past any type of restoration. Everything has been left to fall down on itself. And what the heck happened to the block windows? Why did someone allow such sloppy work? The name of the site is Missouri Mines however the museum does not focus on this at all. Geology is important, however should not be the focus. In my opinion, focus should be on the MO mining industry, the people who worked there and how they lived and worked. People should be able to experience what a day in their lives were like and the jobs they were required to do. It is an insult to all of the hard work of those people that this is a small part of the focus. Restrooms need updated!
71. Stop closing the trail for the shooting range during peak seasons.
72. Swimming area and water needs to be better.
73. The bike trails need a lot of attention.
74. The mine tour was great while visiting the campground.
75. The mineral museum is wonderful.
76. The old buildings really need to be conserved. And more people involved in public outreach. Keep the rock swap going.
77. The place is kind of a joke really.
78. The site is great but there is more DNR can do.
79. The site is unique and could be a great asset. However, I feel it is not treated that way.
80. The site should be either rehabilitated or torn down. It has become quite an eyesore.
81. There is not much here. Most of the buildings are off limits for visitors.
82. This historic site is a great memory for my dad and I. He would take me here when I was a kid, look at the pretty rocks, and even get me a souvenir before we left. It developed my love of rocks and minerals. Please do not get rid of the museum.
83. This is a vital part of Missouri & mining history in the U.S. A bigger budget should be allocated for the tourism promotion.
84. This site is awesome and offers a great spot for RC enthusiasts to run their trucks and take amazing pictures. One of our many cherished spots in Missouri.
85. This survey should have been targeted to the mine's site. If you are sincere about want input, you need to conduct surveys tied to the specific sites.
86. Upgrade things that will draw. Ore interest but keep the historical integrity for others to see the rich history of our state.
87. Very interesting part of our history, thankful it's open to the public!
88. Walking trails.
89. We love the geologic mineral displays building. But it should free.

90. We love to stop by when we are in the area, usually once a year or so. It's just a really neat place to run around and the "spookiness" of it is a big draw in addition to the just history there.
91. Would really like the structure to say as close as all original as possible. I live 2 minutes down the road and love passing and looking at the mines every day.
92. Yes. Repave the trails.

QUESTION #9:

DO YOU HAVE ANY COMMENTS OR
SUGGESTIONS REGARDING MISSOURI
STATE PARKS AND HISTORIC SITES?



1. - Digital Passport System – Visitors earn virtual stamps or credits when they check in at a state park, tracking their progress on an app or website. - Regional & Tiered Badges – Completing visits to a certain number of parks within a region unlocks themed badges (e.g., “Ozark Explorer” or “Historic Trailblazer”). - Exclusive Perks – Badge holders could get discounts on park events, priority access to new programs, and exclusive guided tours. - Merchandise & Prize Drawings – Each badge level enters participants into giveaways for state park gear, free annual passes, or even unique outdoor experiences like private ranger-led hikes.
2. A hidden gem for sure Involve/hire more retired miners somehow.
3. All good.
4. As stated above, less is more, I appreciate the step back in time, without the upgrades that make it weaken its history.
5. Best state park system in the nation.
6. Contaminated sites are a real concern for Missourians. Please keep us safe and informed.
7. Enjoy all our parks, especially river access.
8. Everyone I have visited is great.
9. God bless.
10. Great parks system.
11. Have events, historical demonstrations, reenactors and get the public involved and engaged.
12. I appreciate the state allowing access to these sites.
13. I like to walk and take trails but with all the ticks and diseases spread by them try to find paved trails to walk on during tick season.
14. I love having historical places to visit with my grandkids.
15. I love Missouri State Parks!
16. I love our MO State Parks! You guys do an amazing job and zi have lived how many more programs and activities shave been offered over the past few years.
17. I love them. Varied across the state.
18. Improve and expand the equestrian trails at St. Joe Park. The trails would be much better utilized if they were better maintained.
19. Invasive species management. It's hard to figure out of DNR is managing our natural communities when they are being taken over by Sericea, multiflora rose, autumn olive, and honeysuckles.
20. Just keep them preserved!
21. Keep it. It tell the people that is not from here what it was. Pretty cool place.
22. Keep the historic sites open to teach us history with.
23. Keep them taken care of & safe.
24. Living history tours and activities.
25. Love my Missouri State Parks.
26. Love our conservation n park system... Probably the best in the Earth lets always strive for excellence.
27. Love the Cole range.
28. Love them! Wish we had more!
29. Maintain good parking, bathrooms, sidewalks, clean trails, readable information and historic interest signs etc.
30. Make the buildings safer and allow tours to go into more places to learn more about the site.
31. Make the structure safe for indoor tours.
32. Many of the park roads are in disrepair and need to be repaved.
33. Maybe provide some restaurant!
34. Missouri Parks and sites are wonderful, they are taken care of and very inviting.

35. MO state parks are awesome. Can't thank the MDC enough for keeping our state beautiful.
36. More beginner biking trails off pavement.
37. More development of the back entrance. Tables.
38. On one of my visits, the museum director talked to me about a massive mineral collection sitting in storage on the site. It would be very nice if there was some way that could be displayed someday.
39. Open it back up for riding St. Joe is getting too small without it.
40. Perhaps a small fee activity for self "mining" for minerals, etc. The Site can offer to rent basic mining equipment like picks, shovels, etc. and have a reference chart of what minerals are available to be found in addition to the lead. (Diamond State Park in Arkansas has a similar program for reference. This also helps generate a small source of revenue for *that* park.)
41. Please pay more attention to the bike trail.
42. Possibly more advertising and maybe reach out to schools and organizations to invite them to events.
43. Put in more benches.
44. Really enjoyed first hike of the year this year.
45. Restore the site and make it more interactive. It could really highlight the area's history.
46. Should be preserved because of the history behind it.
47. Some facilities need upgrading.
48. Some of the parks need to be larger.
49. Strip the chat off the top of the tailings at St Joe and you'll get a lot more revenue.
50. Thank you for preserving Missouri's mining history.
51. Thank you for the opportunity to comment.
52. Thank you for the work you do!
53. The parks need to be better maintained as far as grass cutting overall looks.
54. The state parks are awesome especially the ones with fishing areas.
55. The trails need a lot of work. Some pavement is over 30 years old.
56. They need to be adequately funded and staffed to better serve the community and tourists. I'm always seeing visitors who come to Missouri state parks from places as far away as Maine, Virginia, Idaho, and more. The Missouri state parks and historic sites bring visitors from all over, which helps local businesses too.
57. Use it for something it's rarely has anything going on.
58. Very much appreciate you!
59. We appreciate them and the reasonable costs to camp in them. Wish more had Wi-Fi!!!
60. We love all the Missouri State Parks and Natural Areas. We are frequent visitors and always brag about the great parks and conservation departments we have here.
61. We love our state park system!
62. We love the state parks. We love exploring the old buildings/ ruins.
63. We love them!!
64. Wonderful
65. Would love to see more.
66. Yes. Repave the trails.
67. You lol do a great job

